

# **USAID/Economic Growth Office**

## **Annual Report**

**FY 2004**

June 15, 2004

## **Please Note:**

The attached RESULTS INFORMATION is from the FY 2004 Annual Report and was assembled and analyzed by the country or USAID operating unit identified on the cover page.

The Annual Report is a "pre-decisional" USAID document and does not reflect results stemming from formal USAID review(s) of this document.

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## **Economic Growth Office**

### **Performance:**

Program Performance Summary  
Office of Economic Growth

The Development Challenge: Close to half the world's population, 2.5 - 3 billion people, live on less than \$2 a day. They also experience lower levels of education and health care, shorter life expectancies, higher fertility rates, and are less integrated into the world economy. Improving the lot of these poor people is the principal development challenge confronting the world today. With trade accounting for one quarter of the United States' income and one fifth of its manufacturing jobs, it is also a challenge of great practical importance to our country. Achieving faster economic growth is the most effective way for developing countries to reduce poverty and increase living standards.

### **EGAT's Response**

EGAT's Office of Economic Growth (EGAT/EG) provides technical leadership and field support to USAID activities which promote more rapid and sustainable growth in developing and transition economies. The Office does not implement any major field programs directly, but works instead to strengthen the capacity of field staff and missions to do so. The Office's program's are organized around three major themes: 1) increasing capacity to participate in, and benefit from, global trade and investment; 2) improving macroeconomic stability and economic governance to foster favorable business environments; and 3) improving the private and financial sector's capacity to respond to opportunities in the global market place.

### **Key Achievements**

EGAT/EG provides technical leadership by developing or identifying new concepts, tools, mechanisms, and best practices for promoting economic growth and making them readily available to USAID's field missions. Through its Supporting Economic Growth and Institutional reform (SEGIR) family of contracts, EGAT/EG has to date provided over \$850 million in technical assistance to USAID missions worldwide. In FY 2003 alone, SEGIR provided more than \$51 million in assistance through 14 delivery orders in such areas as macroeconomic strengthening, trade and investment reform, legal and institutional reform, privatization, and financial sector deepening.

EGAT/EG has taken the lead in helping to build the capacity of developing and transition countries to participate more effectively in the global trading system, and to meet commitments made under global, regional, or bilateral trade agreements. Substantial technical expertise was also provided by EGAT/EG to missions and host countries in such areas as fiscal reform, financial sector development, commercial law reform, privatization, and private enterprise development. Finally, EGAT/EG staff members provided about 63 work weeks of direct assistance to USAID missions in FY 2003, advising them on best techniques and practices and helping them identify, develop, implement, and evaluate new economic growth-related strategies and activities.

In exercising its technical leadership role, EGAT/EG also works to ensure the quality of technical staff through the selection, training, and mentoring of New Entry Professional in the economist and private enterprise backstops, and through the development and delivery of competency-based technical training programs. A highly successful Economic Growth Officers Overview Training Course, aimed at improving the skills of USAID's economic growth officers, was offered twice in FY 2003, and twice again in the first quarter of FY 2004, with approximately 150 participants. New in-depth training modules in Legal and

Institutional Reform and Financial Sector reform were inaugurated in December 2002 and repeated in Cairo in October 2003. A new in-depth Macroeconomics module was rolled out in December 2003. Modules in International Trade and Microenterprise Development were also repeated-bringing the number of in-depth courses offered between December 2002 - 2003 to eight, with approximately 225 participants. Since the inception of the Economic Growth training program in November 2000, approximately 875 participants have been trained.

**Country Close and Graduation:**

## **Results Framework**

**933-008    Open, Competitive Economies Promoted**